

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application. Claims 1-6, 8-16, and 18-25 are pending in the application. No claims have been amended or canceled.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 8-16, and 18-25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Magnus et al. (WO 02/082359; hereinafter “Magnus”). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 1 sets forth “identification information to associate the hardcopy representation with the electronic application, the identification information comprising an identification (ID) icon” (claim 1, emphasis added). However, the Examiner cited Magnus, p. 5, lines 1-16 and p.8, lines 26-33 to argue that Magnus discloses “the identification information comprising an identification (ID) icon”. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner’s argument.

According to Magnus, p. 5, lines 1-16, the pre-printed coupons are designed with *special boxes* intended for filling in winners, etc. Furthermore, these special boxes have *position-coding pattern*, which is used *to identify where on the coupon the characters have been written*. In contrast, the identification information set forth in claim 1 comprises an identification icon (not a position-coding pattern) to associate the hardcopy representation with the electronic application. The position-coding pattern in Magnus merely identifies where on the coupon the characters have been written, not the associated electronic application.

Furthermore, in Magnus, p.8, lines 26-33, Magnus discloses that *identifying a participant* in a game by a unique *identification signal* from the writing and reading unit. In contrast, claim 1 sets forth an identification icon, not an identification signal from a writing and reading unit. Furthermore, the identification information in claim 1 associates the hardcopy representation with the electronic application, not a participant.

Therefore, Magnus fails to anticipate claim 1 for at least the above reasons. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 2-6 and 8-13 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1. For at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1, Magnus fails to anticipate claims 2-6 and 8-13. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejections.

Applicant respectfully submits that Magnus fails to anticipate claims 14 and 24 for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejections.

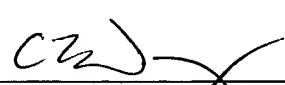
Claims 15-16, 18-23, and 25 depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 14 and 24 respectively. Therefore, claims 15-16, 18-23, and 25 are not anticipated by Magnus for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claims 14 and 24.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) have been overcome by the remarks and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested. Applicant submits that claims 1-6, 8-16, and 18-25 are now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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